

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GDKULICK:PCS

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

AF/E:WBCOOTE

AF:JJBLAKE

PM:DJJAMES

S/S-O. MATTESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 236922

EXDIS - TOSEC 225 FOR SECRETARY FROM SISCO

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT:AMAN'S REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REF: A) ADDIS ABABA 12761; B) TOSEC 123; C) SECTO 111

1. RE QUERY REF C, PARA 1, "CONGRESSIONAL CEILING" IS LIMITATION OF DOLS \$40 MILLION ON MILITARY GRANT AND CREDIT ASSISTANCE FOR ALL OF AFRICA. PROPOSED INCREASE IN ETHIOPIAN CREDIT FOR FY 75 FROM 5.0 MILLION ORIGINALLY PROGRAMMED TO 8.3 MILLION WILL PUSH TOTAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR AFRICA ABOVE 40 MILLION LEGISLATIVE CEILING AND REQUIRE REDUCTION IN OTHER PROJECTED COUNTRY PROGRAMS. PM REGARDS OFF-SETTING COUNTRY REDUCTIONS AS "MANAGEABLE" BUT IF INCREASED BEYOND 3.3 MILLION FOR ETHIOPIA WOULD SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE OTHER COUNTRY OBJECTIVES, E.G., IN MOROCCO OR ZAIRE.

2. IF SECRETARY APPROVES RECOMMENDATION A, DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS CHARGE ADDIS RESPOND TO AMAN ON ETHIOPIAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE REQUEST BY DELIVERY PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO AMAN, GIVEN GENERAL AMAN'S OBVIOUS SENSITIVITY.

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TEXT FOLLOWS ON WHICH SECRETARY'S APPROVAL REQUESTED.

3. QUOTE. MY DEAR GENERAL AMAN. I AM TAKING THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WRITE TO YOU IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONVERSATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN WASHINGTON AND IN ADDIS ABABA BETWEEN

OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS REGARDING ETHIOPIAN MILITARY REQUIREMENTS. LET ME BEGIN BY ASSURING YOU THAT THIS IS A SUBJECT THAT HAS RECEIVED MY PERSONAL ATTENTION OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS AND THAT IT IS ONE WITH WHICH I WILL CONTINUE TO CONCERN MYSELF BECAUSE OF THE LONG-STANDING TIES BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND THE UNITED STATES. THE CONTINUED INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES IN ETHIOPIA HAS RECENTLY BEEN MANIFESTED BY OUR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAMS AS WELL AS BY THE DIVERSION OF CERTAIN MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM US ARMED FORCES IN EUROPE IN ORDER TO MEET ETHIOPIAN PRIORITY MILITARY NEEDS.

4. QUOTE. EVER SINCE FINANCE MINISTER NEGASH MET WITH UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE SISCO IN WASHINGTON EARLIER THIS MONTH, WE HAVE BEEN GIVING CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO YOUR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE THROUGH GRANT AID OR FOREIGN MILITARY SALES CREDITS. OUR CONSIDERATION OF THIS PROBLEM HAS BEEN COMPLICATED BY THE FACT THAT THE CONGRESS HAS NOT YET ACTED ON THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975 AND BY CONGRESSIONAL LIMITATIONS ON THE TOTAL OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND AS A GESTURE OF THE UNITED STATES' DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE TO ETHIOPIA, I HAVE DIRECTED THAT DOLS 8.3 MILLION IN DIRECT FOREIGN MILITARY SALES CREDITS BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ETHIOPIA IMMEDIATELY OUT OF THE INTERIM MILITARY AUTHORIZATION THE CONGRESS HAS APPROVED.

5. QUOTE. OUR CHARGE D'AFFAIRES HAS DESCRIBED TO ME THE CONTINUING CONCERN OF THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE NAMING OF A NEW US AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA. YOU WILL RECALL THAT AN AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN NAMED BUT WAS UNABLE TO TAKE UP HIS RESPONSIBILITIES BECAUSE OF PERSONAL REASONS. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW THAT WE ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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NOW WORKING URGENTLY ON THE SELECTION OF A NEW AMBASSADOR, AND I EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO SUBMIT A NAME TO YOU VERY SOON.

6. QUOTE. I TRUST, GENERAL AMAN, THAT YOU WILL ACCEPT THE ASSURANCES CONTAINED IN THIS LETTER AND THE DECISION I HAVE MADE REGARDING MILITARY CREDIT ASSISTANCE AS EVIDENCE OF THE CONTINUED GOOD WILL OF THE US TOWARD ETHIOPIA AND OF MY PERSONAL DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN THE

RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT  
POSSIBLE. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY SALES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 26 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
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**TAGS:** MASS, PFOR, ET, US  
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